

Message Text

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43

ORIGIN AF-06

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL DURBAN

INFO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 236061

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:SF, PINT

SUBJECT: WELFARE OF DIRK REZELMAN

1. DEPT HAS RECEIVED INQUIRY FROM CHARLES W.GUSEWELLE OF THE EDITORIAL STAFF OF THE KANSAS CITY STAR CONCERNING PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF REZELMAN, WHO HE DESCRIBED AS OLD FRIEND. GUSEWELLE SAID HE RECEIVED CRYPTIC CORRESPONDENCE FROM REZELMAN IN JULY WHICH BORE SOUTH AFRICAN POSTMARK DATED APRIL. COMMUNICATION SPOKE OF NEED TO "WORK OUT METHOD OF GETTING TO YOU." GUSEWELLE CABLED REZELMAN IMMEDIATELY AT AN ADDRESS IN GILLITTS, NATAL, BUT HAS RECEIVED NO ANSWER. GUSEWELLE RECALLED THAT REZELMAN WAS ONCE CONSIDERED BRIGHT, YOUNG MAN ON THE WAY UP IN THE NATIONALIST PARTY, BUT BROKE WITH NATS SOME YEARS BACK TO JOIN PRIVATE INDUSTRY. HE SEEMED CONCERNED THAT REZELMAN MIGHT BE IN POLITICAL TROUBLE.

2. DEPT NOTES REFERENCE TO REZELMAN IN PRETORIA'S A-126 OF AUGUST 19 WHICH MENTIONS HIS COLUMN, "NATIONALIST VIEWPOINT" IN THE DAILY MAIL.

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3. IF IN EMBASSY'S JUDGMENT REZELMAN CAN BE SAFELY

CONTACTED AND INFORMED OF CONCERN ON THE PART OF HIS

FRIEND GUSEWELLE ABOUT HIS FAILURE TO RESPOND TO THE
LATTER'S TELEGRAM IN JULY, PRETORIA OR DURBAN SHOULD
DO SO. IF YOU JUDGE THIS COULD CREATE DIFFICULTIES
FOR REZELMAN, DEPARTMENT WOULD BE GREATFULFOR ANY IN-
FORMATION ABOUT HIS PRESENT SITUATION WHICH MIGHT
BE FORWARDED TO GUSEWELLE. KISSINGER

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